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Dkang  
3-18-03

Attorney Docket No. 1614.1093

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Noriyuki ITO et al.

Application No.: 09/708,572

Group Art Unit: 2825

Confirmation No.: 2299

Filed: November 9, 2000

Examiner: Vuthe Siek

For: DESIGN DATA PROCESSING METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 14, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on February 14, 2003. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for the same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to March 14, 2003. Therefore, this Amendment is timely filed, with a one-month extension of time, by March 14, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Please REPLACE Figures 1-4 with the substitute Figures 1-4 submitted herewith.

03/13/2003 HLE333 00000014 09708572

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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND claims 1 and 5 and ADD new claim 9 in accordance with the following:

*Sub C1  
B1*

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1. (ONCE AMENDED) A design data processing method of processing hierarchically configured design data, comprising:  
obtaining first design data of a predetermined rank of hierarchy;

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## REPLY/AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL

REPLY/AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL	Attorney Docket No.	1614.1093
	Application Number	09/708,572
	Filing Date	November 9, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Noriyuki ITO et al.
	Group Art Unit	2825
AMOUNT ENCLOSED	110.00	Examiner Name Vuthe Siek

### FEE CALCULATION (fees effective 01/01/03)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Number Extra	Rate	Calculations
TOTAL CLAIMS	3	- 20 =	0	X \$ 18.00 =	\$ 0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3	- 8 =	0	X \$ 84.00 =	0.00
Since an Official Action set an original due date of February 14, 2003, petition is hereby made for an extension to cover the date this reply is filed for which the requisite fee is enclosed (1 month (\$110); 2 months (\$410); 3 months (\$930); 4 months (\$1,450); 5 months (\$1,970)):					110.00
If Notice of Appeal is enclosed, add (\$320)					
If Statutory Disclaimer under Rule 20(d) is enclosed, add fee (\$110)					
Total of above Calculations =					\$ 110.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (37 CFR 1.9, 1.27 & 1.28)					
TOTAL FEES DUE =					\$ 110.00

(1) If entry (1) is less than entry (2), entry (3) is "0".  
(2) If entry (2) is less than 20, change entry (2) to "20".  
(4) If entry (4) is less than entry (5), entry (6) is "0".  
(5) If entry (5) is less than 3, change entry (5) to "3".

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### METHOD OF PAYMENT

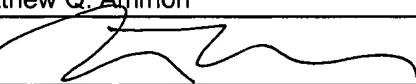
Check enclosed as payment.  
 Charge "TOTAL FEES DUE" to the Deposit Account No. below.  
 No payment is enclosed and no charges to the Deposit Account are authorized at this time (unless specifically required to obtain a filing date).

### GENERAL AUTHORIZATION

If the above-noted "AMOUNT ENCLOSED" is not correct, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fees necessary to:  
Deposit Account No. 19-3935  
Deposit Account Name STAAS & HALSEY LLP

The Commissioner is also authorized to credit any overpayments or charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 (filing fees) or 37 CFR 1.17 (processing fees) during the prosecution of this application, including any related application(s) claiming benefit hereof pursuant to 35 USC § 120 (e.g., continuations/divisionals/CIPs under 37 CFR 1.53(b) and/or continuations/divisionals/CPAs under 37 CFR 1.53(d)) to maintain pendency hereof or of any such related application.

### SUBMITTED BY: STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Typed Name	Matthew Q. Ammon	Reg. No.	50,346
Signature		Date	3-10-2003

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